

Lenten Reflection

Easter Monday, March 28, 2016

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Acts 2: 14, 22 – 33, Psalm 16, Matthew 28: 8 – 15



Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*“Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went away quickly from the tomb,
fearful yet overjoyed, and ran to announce the news to his disciples.
And behold, Jesus met them on their way and greeted them.
They approached, embraced his feet, and did him homage.
Then Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid.
Go tell my brothers to go to Galilee, and there they will see me.”*

(Matthew 28:8)

What a joy it is to immerse ourselves in the accounts of the Resurrection stories for 8 whole days after the Great Feast of Jesus’ rising from the dead! What a special time of profound joy, hope and the gift of life for the people of God. We are renewed in the mystery of our faith, committed with our Risen Jesus to break open our hearts and live for others and strengthened in our ministry to proclaim the Word of God!

Mary Magdalene and the other women along with Peter, Thomas and the rest of the disciples could hardly believe what they saw and experienced with the presence of Jesus among them in a new way. It is no wonder that the women’s experience of joy compelled them to hurry from the empty tomb and run to tell the rest of the disciples! But, why were they afraid, as the Scriptures tell us?

Let’s pause to also consider Mary, Jesus’ Mother? She isn’t mentioned by name in the first accounts of the Resurrection stories. What experiences were overtaking her heart? Where was she? Can you just imagine? Let’s take a moment to imagine what Mary may have felt, thought and pondered about her Son, God’s Son, risen from the dead!

So, here we are today, 2000+ years later, Providence Sisters and Associates, women and men, people who gather with us in prayer and ministry, how has our Lenten journey gifted us with the grace we need to recognize the presence of the Risen Jesus among and within us? How will we go and proclaim that Jesus *lives* and is *among us*? Let us, in trust and deep faith, filled with joy, proclaim by our lives that *Jesus, by the gracious gift of our Provident God, is truly present within and among us!*

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

This is the day the Lord has made; let us be glad and rejoice in it.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!